

THE PROSECUTOR

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Inter Alia

By RICHARD M. ROMLEY  
Maricopa County Attorney

As many of you know, for years I fought for victims' rights to ensure victims of crimes were able to participate in the criminal justice system. Our fight culminated in voter passage of constitutional amendments guaranteeing rights to victims of crime. The mandated purpose of the Maricopa County Attorney's Office is to serve as an advocate for the state, victims, and the citizens of the community. While Our Office meets the highest standard of advocacy for the state and victims, the citizens of the community are often overlooked when sentencing a criminal.

I have always felt that criminal activity results not only in the victimization of an individual, but has an adverse effect upon the community at large. For example, a burglar that rifles through an individual's personal belongings,



Manzanita Neighborhood Activist Lora Lee Nye poses with County Attorney Rick Romley after speaking at a press conference about her role in the Neighborhood Restoration Project.

stealing out of dresser drawers and off shelves, clearly violates the resident. However, neighbors, aware of yesterday's burglary down the street, take an extra precaution to dead bolt their doors out of fear for their own safety. They become less friendly and more suspicious of anyone walking down the street. Numerous crimes like street-level drug sales and graffiti can

drive neighbors to relocate to areas they deem safer. Fear, blight, and increased misconduct eventually overtake the community—furthering neighborhood deterioration.

The successful prosecution of a criminal is the first step in repairing a neighborhood devastated by crime. The recent prosecution of Tamara Thomas Green, the owner of five "adult" bookstores in the Metro Phoenix area, was a sentencing prototype designed to give back to neighborhoods. These sexually oriented bookstores owned by Tamara Green operated in residential and commercial neighborhoods. Although her corporation, B.C. Books, Inc., falsified, doctored and shredded records to avoid paying taxes, these "adult" businesses created a hub of criminal activity that spread to the bordering neighborhoods. As part of her plea agreement, Tamara Green must permanently close five of her sexually oriented bookstores. Neither Tamara Green nor B.C. Books, Inc. can reopen or relocate another sexually oriented business in Maricopa County. She was ordered to pay a substantial penalty. Of that penalty I have committed \$100,000 to be set aside to funnel back into the five neighborhoods affected by the operation of the Book Cellars chain. In addition, it gives neighborhoods, which the defendants' conduct impacted, the opportunity to initiate programs or activities that will begin to restore the quality of life for the entire neighborhood.



This unique sanction allowed me to unveil the Neighborhood Restoration Project. I have appointed a three-member board comprising community activist and Block

Watch leader Lora Lee Nye, Westwood Neighborhood Activist Donna Neill and the President of United Phoenix Fire Fighters Pat Cantalme to act as a screening committee for neighborhood suggestions of how this money could best be spent in the respective neighborhoods. Neighborhood residents are to be informed of the availability of these funds and encouraged to submit suggestions.

I encourage you to explore innovative ways we can use to meet the broader goal of restoring the community to wholeness following a crime. We already fashion plea agreements that address offender sanctions such as victim

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Team developed to lessen sexual assault victims trauma

By NICOLE MANGER, Public Information Coordinator

After years of research, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, under the leadership of the Sex Crimes Bureau, has developed a program to "minimize trauma to victims of sexual assault."

According to Deputy County Attorney Bill Amato, the Sexual Assault Response Team is a "one-stop shop" for victims of sexual assault.

"One of the reasons I want to get this up and running is that I was disappointed with the scenarios that victims told me about the exam experience—like waiting for six or seven hours in emergency rooms filled with a ton of people," Amato said. "Sexual assault is a very private matter. SART will minimize the trauma experienced by victims as well as collect better evidence for prosecution."

This "one-stop shop" translates into having designated sexual assault centers equipped with one to three specially trained nurses to conduct the examination, and a law enforcement representative to interview the victim. Unlike the current process, the victim will undergo one extensive interview, instead of three or four by police and the prosecutor.

The Mesa Advocacy Center, Phoenix Center Against Sexual Assault and Scottsdale Memorial Hospital North will house the sexual assault centers, providing a comfortable and private atmosphere.

"For the last nine years, adults have had sexual assault exams in emergency rooms," Amato said. "Emergency room doctors do not prioritize sexual assaults. Gunshot wounds take priority over something non-lifethreatening."

So far three nurses have signed on, but once the County Attorney's Office finalizes the pro-

gram, 17 will come aboard. "The nurses must take 40 additional hours of training, including classes taught by Deputy County Attorneys on testifying and responding to defense interviews. Nurses will also learn how to collect evidence that puts the suspect at the scene of the crime—like gravel embedded in the victim's back or grass under the fingernails. These details, often overlooked during emergency room visits, build solid cases for prosecution," Amato said.

To understand the correlation between medical evidence and criminal prosecution, the forensic nurses will witness the tests run by DNA lab technicians on the rape kit specimens. The final phase of training requires the nurses to intern at a center with a sexual assault response team in place.

SART members form a multidiscipline team that includes prosecutors, victim witness advocates, police, crime labs, hospitals, CASA and SART nurses working together to conduct the best possible investigation.

"The hospitals favor the idea, not only altruistically, but because it keeps doctors in the ER and out of the courtroom," Amato said. "The whole community will benefit."

It was nursing staff from the Veterans Administration Hospital and Scottsdale Memorial North that originally brought the idea to the County Attorney's Office.

Last year alone the County Attorney's Office spent \$477,159 on sexual assault examinations.

"The nurses and district attorneys where SART programs are up and running, give favorable responses," Amato said. He added that the program should be up and running in a few months, now that the office has established protocols.

Blood chilling experience



Wheeling away their donations on a flatbed, the Red Cross sponsored the first day of the blood drive. United Blood Services snatched the final contributions. The pricking and sticking took place September 14th through the 17th.



Remaining calm, Momilani Hauakahi-Daniels, Legal Secretary, waits while her blood drips into a pint-sized bag. More than 460 employees from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office donated blood, increasing the total donations by 10 percent over May's drive.



# Green Team hopes to double last year's United Way total

By NICOLE MANGER  
Public Information Coordinator

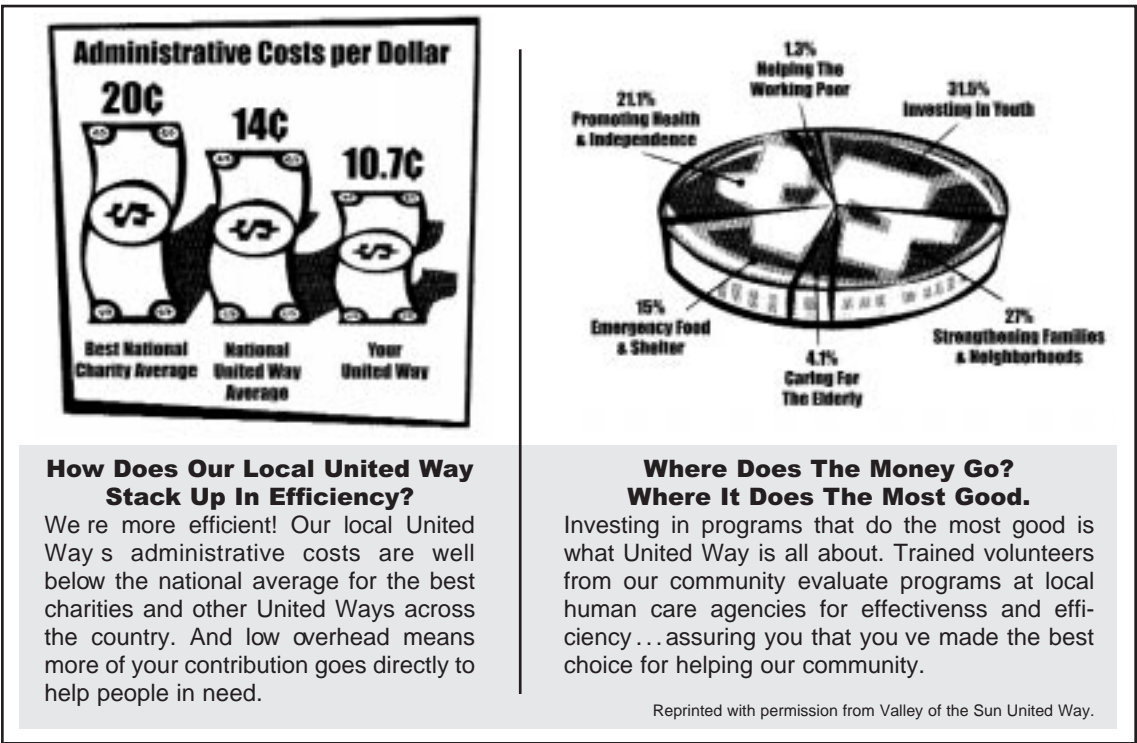
United Way 1998 campaign organizers, affectionately known as the Green Team, hope MCAO employees “Give Hope a Hand” by doubling the amount donated last year.

The kickoff runs from October 5 to October 23 and is expected to exceed the \$19,000 goal set by co-coordinators Heather McLellan, administrative assistant for Investigations, and Tamara Martin, legal assistant for County Counsel. The United Way, a nationwide charity, distributes local dollars to over 300 community charities.

Doubling the donations will keep our office competitive with other government agencies. For example, 28 percent of the county employees, 34 percent of state and 67 percent of City of Phoenix employees made either cash donations or offered payroll deductions during the United Way campaign.

“The money doesn’t go to just the poor and the homeless,” McLellan said. “The United Way encompasses those agencies and many more—like the Red Cross, adoption agencies, Boy Scouts, county libraries, and the elderly.”

McLellan said that one out of three Maricopa County residents use United Way agencies.



MCAO employees can specify which agencies will receive their donation, but are encouraged to mark the United Way Valleywide Fund designation. The Valleywide fund awards monies to all agencies based on their need, eliminating the possibility of agencies left without funding.

“The one-drive concept helps very worthwhile agencies that don’t receive as much publicity, continue to do the knitty-gritty stuff to help people,” McLellan said.

County Attorney Rick Romley specified that his donation go to the Red Cross “for personal reasons.” In 1969, as a young marine, Romley was wounded in Vietnam. While the injuries to his hands, arms and legs healed, the Red Cross volunteers wrote letters to his family. One volunteer even cooked him a steak after days of eating hospital food, he said.

“The Red Cross was always there for me,” Romley said. “Now it’s time to give back.”

If everybody contributed 50 cents a week for a year, the

Maricopa County Attorney’s Office would raise \$18,000. McLellan said that for the price of a cup of coffee each week the office could easily meet our goal.

The Green Team claims the goal for the office is realistic because they have a strategy. “Having two coordinators allows the information to reach employees at the outlying facilities,” explained Martin. She believes donations in years past were sluggish because employees’ questions were not addressed one-on-one. This month, McLellan and Martin

will personally meet with each division to discuss donation options and answer questions.

“We both [McLellan and Martin] really believe in United Way and hope our enthusiasm is shared by the office,” Martin said.

Participants have a chance to win various prizes based on the dollar amount donated, but no donation is too small. MCAO will also have two softball teams participating in the United Way Maricopa County-wide tournament on October 17th.

The Maricopa County United Way boasts the most efficient administration based on the national average for best charities. The best national charities use 20 cents out of every dollar for administrative costs. Nationally United Way spends 14 cents a dollar, while the local United Way chapter spends 10.7 cents from each dollar donated on administrative costs. As the brochure suggests, your gift goes far, but not faraway.

Both McLean and Martin volunteer with agencies funded by United Way. Martin’s affiliation with Girl Scouts makes her a natural co-coordinator for the office. While McLellan, a self-proclaimed social activist, donates her time to agencies like the Florence Crittenton home for wayward girls.

## Love, Sweat and Tears: MCAO employee hammers for Habitat

By NICOLE MANGER, Public Information Coordinator

**S**PENDING SATURDAYS wearing steel-toed Wolverine workboots and pounding nails, brings tears to Heather McLellan’s eyes. Not because the manual labor she performs is interfering with her weekend plans, but because she is volunteering with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for low-income families.

“When I drive into the South Ranch community, I see 100 homes that people of all ages built from love. It gives you such a warm feeling,” McLellan said. “I tear up when I think about it.”

McLellan has completed two all-women built houses. The second “Women Built House” was started on Valentine’s Day and dedicated to Genevieve Munoz, the new owner, on Mother’s Day. From the foundation to the shingles, the house was 90 percent built by women.

“The first year we started we were all pretty green. I made a lot of mistakes that I had to redo,” McLellan said.

After hundreds of hours hammering nails, McLellan became a confident homebuilder, except for roofing.

“Anything on the roof is difficult. I’m not totally fearful, but it’s not my favorite place. However, I can pound a nail—three swipes and it’s in,” she said. “Habitat encouraged me to not be afraid to tackle whatever needs to be done. Jump in and do it, you’re not going to always get it right the first time.”

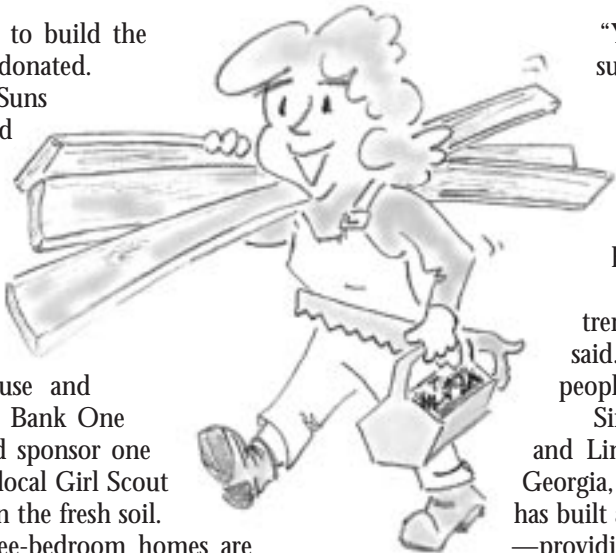
McLellan is a member of the Valley of the Sun chapter of Habitat for Humanity, which is currently developing a subdivision called South Ranch II located at 16th Street and Southern Avenue in South Phoenix. When completed the development will contain 196 homes, a community center and a 1.5 acre park.

All the materials to build the \$50,000 homes are donated. In fact the Phoenix Suns donated their time and materials to build a basketball court in the park and Oprah Winfrey is sponsoring two homes in the area. Other contributors include Del Webb, Maxwell House and Phoenix Newspapers. Bank One donated the land and sponsor one house per year. Even local Girl Scout troops plant flowers in the fresh soil.

The two- to three-bedroom homes are complete with electricity, appliances and running water.

“These are very lovely homes. Houses you and I would love to have,” McLellan said.

To qualify for a Habitat home you must be able to pay back a ten-year interest-free loan and, more importantly, provide “sweat equity.” Sweat equity requires the homeowner to invest hundreds of hours of their own labor into building their Habitat house and the houses of others. According to the Habitat for Humanity philosophy, sweat equity reduces the monetary cost of the house, increases the personal stake of the family member in their house and fosters the development of partnerships with other people in the community. In the South Ranch community, homeowners provide 400 hours of sweat equity building their house and the houses of others.



“You do the best job you can to make sure someone has a roof over their head,” McLellan said.

She said that any Habitat homeowner defaulting on their loan was extremely rare. To date only one loan was defaulted, and that was by a homeowner in Chicago.

“Habitat for Humanity has made a tremendous difference in my life,” she said. “I would never get to know these people with such frequency.”

Since its founding in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller as Christian ministries in Georgia, Habitat for Humanity International has built and rehabilitated some 70,000 houses—providing more than 300,000 people with “safe, affordable, decent shelter.” The organization gained national notoriety when former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn took their first Habitat work trip to New York City in 1984. Since the televised images of Jimmy Carter with a beaming smile and hammer in hand, the increase in the number of people worldwide willing to donate “sweat equity” has dramatically increased. There are now more than 1,300 active affiliates located in all 50 states and more than 250 international affiliates in 59 other countries.

“All over the world, people are building homes just out of sheer love for humanity,” McLellan said.

Anyone wishing to get involved with a local chapter of Habitat for Humanity International should call 268-9022 for more information.



A story to tell...

# Vince Tolino: 30 years and no regrets

By LILY GHOULAM, Legislative Intern

A BIG WARM SMILE—that is how I was greeted when I stepped into Vincent Tolino's office. I was excited. I knew only of Vincent Tolino by name and a few scarce encounters on the 8th floor, which I remember because of his signature tie. Getting comfortable, I made sure that calling him Vince was acceptable.



Deputy County Attorney, Vince Tolino, is recognized as one of the leading experts in Arizona on extradition law. His name has become synonymous with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. Even his supervisor, Randy Ellexson describes Vince "as a very hard worker."

A veteran of MCAO, Vince began his career in 1970 while completing his law degree at ASU. Among his many victories, Vince successfully prosecuted *State v. Doss*, the first death penalty murder trial in Arizona under the revised constitutional statutes.

However, Vince did not always practice law. This native New Yorker received his bachelor's degree in philosophy and his master's degree in psychology. He spent two years working for military intelligence and eight years working in the university system in New York, where

he served as an Assistant Dean to the Director of Research and Grants. He relocated to Arizona to attend a new law school, but more importantly a beautiful woman persuaded him, who would soon become his wife.

Vince always knew he wanted to be a trial attorney. Even when I asked him what his favorite part about working at MCAO was, he spoke about there never being a boring day. For Vince, he loves the "everyday challenge of the work itself and the opportunity to be in the courtroom." Not only will you see Vince in the courtroom, he has also played an integral role in the function of the welfare of criminal justice issues. He served 13 years (the longest serving elected member) in the State Bar Criminal Justice Section. Vince was also certified with the AZ State Bar Criminal Specialist Certification from 1979-1991. Another esteemed accomplishment, Vince received three judicial nominations prior to 1983. Among his contributions to the community, Vince taught at ASU College of Business as a Business Law instructor. Inside as well as outside the courtroom, Vince never regrets practicing law at the Maricopa County Attorney's Office.

In 1970, when Vince first began working at MCAO, a career track was not in place for attorneys. With approximately 37 people working here (three in the Civil Division), attorneys handled



Despite the stacks of paper covering his desk, Deputy County Attorney Vince Tolino found the time to tell his story.

everything from shoplifting to murder. To put it in perspective, one of the senior-most attorneys had been with MCAO for only three years. Widely respected attorneys such as Charles Heider, William Heider, and Ken Rosengren became Vince's role models as exceptional trial attorneys. With six Criminal Judges, the complexities of organizing and scheduling courtroom procedures were nonexistent. Over many years, Vince has seen an increase in formality in the courtroom. He cannot believe how much the Office has grown.

"This is a whole different world," he said regarding the number of judges and

cases. "This has become such a large operation."

"Throughout my years at the Office, it has been a good experience for me personally," Vince said.

Vince Tolino has not only been an exceptional attorney but is also an outstanding man. I strongly encourage you to stop and say "hello" to him. I promise you will not leave without a smile on your face.

*"A story to tell..." is a new series appearing in The Prosecutor. If you have a story to tell, please contact Nicole Manger, Public Information Coordinator, by email or call 506-7799.*

## Halloween candy helps children with mental retardation

By NICOLE MANGER  
Public Information Coordinator

The candy dropped into a miniature pirate's trick-or-treat bag this Halloween will actually help the community.

The Knights of Columbus annual fund raising drive celebrates its twenty-fifth year. Donning bright yellow aprons, the Knights take to the streets one week out of the year giving Tootsie Rolls to those that stuff bills in their donation can.

Knights of Columbus member John Garcia, Informa-

tion Technology Division, has 50 boxes of Tootsie Rolls left over from the drive. He is asking for \$10 donations in exchange for a box of 50 four-inch Tootsie Rolls.

"By donating and getting some Tootsie Rolls for Halloween you are helping children live healthy and productive lives," Garcia said.

The donations provide children with mental retardation special education and recreational equipment. All the proceeds go to local organizations

which benefit children with mental retardation or physical handicaps. Knights of Columbus manages to keep administrative costs, like printing and advertising, below one percent of the total donations.

Last year the Knights of Columbus raised \$172,364 and have set a goal of \$200,000 in lieu of the drive's silver anniversary.

"Rumor is we are well along the way to meeting our goal of \$200,000," Garcia said.

On September 16, the Board of Supervisors Chairperson Jan Brewer awarded Garcia with a proclamation declaring October 2, 3, and 4 "Help Children with Mental Retardation Days." Garcia brought children with mental retardation and physical handicaps to the meeting and presented Brewer with a yellow apron and a donation can. She returned the can a week later filled with \$75 in donations.

Garcia collected over \$2,500 by knocking on doors in West Phoenix neighborhoods.

If you would like to purchase a box of candy, call John Garcia at 506-3188.



Representing the Knights of Columbus, John Garcia, Information and Technology, presents Board of Supervisors Chairperson Jan Brewer with the signature apron of the "Help Children with Mental Retardation" fund raising drive.

## News from Training & Development

Once again the Superior Court is requesting MCAO attorneys to participate in The Courthouse Experience program. The program is designed to give students in sixth through twelfth grade a positive first-hand experience with lawyers and the court system.

Attorneys who choose to participate will meet a class in the lobby of the Central Court Building and will take students to observe a criminal morning calendar. After court, the attorney conducts a question and answer session to discuss what the students observed and explain basic principles of the legal system. The time commitment involved is approximately three hours.

Attorneys do not have to be litigators to participate. Helen Cahill, the program coordinator, will mail a how-to packet to those who choose to participate. If you are interested in volunteering contact Helen at 506-5910.

For those who missed the previous lunch sessions, the University of Phoenix has scheduled two additional brown bag meetings to discuss the on-site after hours degree program. There are two University of Phoenix business programs structured exclusively for Maricopa County employees that will be offered on-site at a Downtown Maricopa County location. Courses will be taught by faculty who have both public and private sector experience.

All sessions will be held from noon to 1 pm in the Board of Supervisors Auditorium, 205 West Jefferson Street.

Tuesday, October 27 is the information on Bachelor of Science in Business/Management Wednesday, November 4 is the information on Master of Arts in Organizational Management Both BSB/M and MAOM degrees will also be discussed Tuesday, November 10

To RSVP, or for more information, call a University of Phoenix Enrollment Counselor at 966-7400.



# Double Helix: DNA evidence links criminals to crime in unusual ways

By NICOLE MANGER, Public Information Coordinator

The Nevada County District Attorney's Office in California called the Maricopa County Attorney's Office with a mystery. A young girl was found dead in a remote desert location. Police know she was sexually molested, but the pine needles in her hair indicate the crime was committed elsewhere. They have a suspect in mind, but a lack of evidence to link him to the crime.

Luckily, MCAO provided the answers to solve the mystery. Officers analyzed the DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) of the pine needles in the girl's hair and compared the results to the pine trees on the suspect's property. A perfect match. With the crime scene revealed, officers armed with search warrants returned to the scene to search for additional evidence to link the suspect to the crime.

Until recently, crimes like this would remain unsolved. Now the criminals are convicted, thanks to the power of DNA evidence becoming widely accepted in the courtroom.

"DNA evidence is the legal buzzword of the '90s," Deputy County Attorney Bill Clayton said.

"Many Americans were introduced to the concept during the O.J. Simpson trial. In fact, juries hearing murder and sexual assault cases expect to hear DNA evidence," Clayton said.

While the public recognizes the value of DNA evidence, the concept is difficult to grasp.

DNA from a drop of blood, a single hair or vegetation at a crime scene can implicate a criminal or clear an innocent suspect. Recently, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno started a federal task force to reinvestigate old cases using today's technology. To date, 58 wrongfully convicted men have been released from federal prisons after DNA analysis proved them innocent.

"Every time you look at another band you are potentially excluding a person," Clayton said. "No two people's genetic coding looks alike."

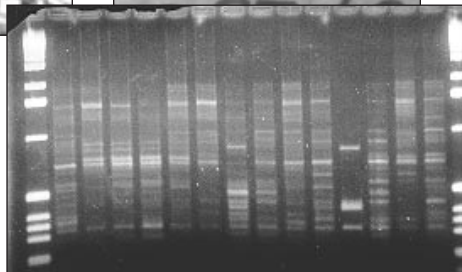
Crime labs, like the Phoenix-based Arizona Department of Public Safety Laboratory, run a series of six probes. The probability of the random occurrence in the general population on the DNA profile obtained from the testing can be narrowed to one in 1.1 billion people who could have committed the particular crime.

A typical forensic DNA test compares a suspect's genetic profile to that of an evidence sample. If the two do not match, then the evidence did not come from the suspect. If they match, the evidence came from the suspect, unless someone else shares that profile. The science has proven that no two people, except identical twins, have the same DNA profile. Because the current DNA testing only examines small segments of a person's DNA, statistics are often used to interpret the meaning of the match between the suspect's profile and that of the evidence. The



**The evidence link:** (Above) Police discovered the body under this palo verde tree.

(Top right) The seed pods found in the bed of Bogan's truck. (Right) The completed DNA test analyzing the trees in the area in comparison to the seedpods.



probability that two profiles match at all six probes is dependant on the profiles developed. But the numbers can range from 1 in 1.1 billion to more than a trillion between two non-related individuals. Considering that there are approximately 6 billion people in the world, the tests are quite powerful.

An interesting case prosecuted by Clayton convicted a suspect based on vegetation evidence. In *State v. Bogan*, seedpods from a palo verde tree were discovered in the suspect's truck. DNA extracted from the pods found that they belonged to the palo verde tree where police discovered the woman's nude body. The case received national attention, prompting law enforcement

officers from around the nation to call MCAO asking for assistance with DNA evidence.

A decade ago, when DNA samples were first entered into evidence, defense attorneys argued the science was flawed. With the scientific advancements and reliability of DNA evidence, berating the science does not work anymore. A new strategy used by the defense centers on accusing police officers of mishandling evidence, or tainting the sample. This puts additional pressure on the officers that arrive at the scene to be careful and consistent in evidence collection.

"Law enforcement must be on guard, diligent and not become complacent," Clayton said.

Criminals benefit least from technology because the evidence they are leaving is often undetectable to the naked eye. Scientific evidence, like skin underneath a victim's fingernails, is easy for a forensic detective to collect, but difficult for an attacker to remove. In addition, science gives detectives clues to the criminal's identity that are not obvious, like the seedpods in the truck bed.

"How many criminals are smart enough to wear gloves?" Clayton asked. "Most of them. But how many rapists use a condom?"

DNA evidence is not the only scientific evidence used in the courtroom. For years prosecutors, working hand-in-hand with law enforcement officers, have successfully linked criminals to crimes by using scientific techniques. Striations from tools, like a crowbar used to pry open a door or identifying the marks on a bullet that matches to a gun, are common elements presented in court cases. The Breathalyzer, intoxilyzer and fingerprinting are the most common forms of scientific evidence used by MCAO.

"Serology, defined as the study of serums like blood, has long been an accepted form of biologically linking defendants with the crime. DNA evidence takes these forms of biological evidence a step further," Clayton said.

"Science keeps adding another tool to help law enforcement," Clayton said. "We were swimming in a pond. Now we are going to the ocean."

## The audience is listening

By NICOLE MANGER  
Public Information Coordinator

Jurors can now listen to wiretap or tape-recorded evidence with-



Joe Hollenbeck, Investigations, displays the new jury-friendly portable headphones.

out straining to hear a portable tape recorder.

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office purchased wireless headsets and an infrared unit for use at the Superior Court, Investigator Joe Hollenbeck said. Hollenbeck, who is responsible for ordering the equipment for trial presentation, must stay current with the latest technology. Since he assists all Valley law enforcement agencies with wiretap and video surveillance equipment for stakeouts, he is aware how crucial clearly presented evidence is to a successful trial.

"They [the headsets] are a definite advantage from a prosecution standpoint," Hollenbeck said.

The headphones are portable and very easy to use. They have not made their debut in

court yet, but will probably be used for high-profile cases. The purchase of the headsets is the beginning of many improvements in technology the court buildings will undergo in the coming years.

Attorneys currently have access to an Elmo projector and 32-inch-screen televisions. An Elmo projects pictures onto the television screen, allowing everyone in the room a clear view of the evidence. The Elmo can project pictures and documents but works especially well on three-dimensional evidence.

The Elmo eliminates the risk of missing information while jurors are passing a hard copy down the row.

"When you pass a picture, the person who is looking at it isn't listening to the speaker," Hollenbeck said.

Hollenbeck has an idea of the equipment he would like to purchase to update the court-

rooms. He envisions a time when prosecutors present their cases on PowerPoint presentations from a laptop computer. Jurors would view evidence and charts on the screen of computer monitors positioned in jury boxes.

This reality is not that far away. The Symington trial, held in the federal court building, was equipped with monitors for jurors. All the documents used and testimony heard in the trial was stored in a computer system instantly accessible to jurors during deliberation.

"Right now we are waiting for these ideas to circulate so we can buy it cheaper," Deputy County Attorney Bill Clayton said.

Clayton foresees a courtroom capable of showing graphic display that would recreate the crime. For example, a program would show a room before a murder scene, then show the

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restitution and community service. The Neighborhood Restoration Project is an extension of restitution awarded to victims. Our Office could expand this to encourage offender involvement in neighborhood restoration. While community enhancement options may not be appropriate for the majority of cases, it may be very suitable in select cases. I am counting on your ingenuity to help the Neighborhood Restoration Project grow by crafting pleas to force offenders to give back to the communities they have harmed.

The words "Improve the Quality of Community Life" appear on the Office seal, our identification badges and in the Office's mission statement. As prosecutors, we play a critical role in enhancing our communities by holding offenders accountable for their actions and making the victim whole. We must never forget that our Office plays an important role in enhancing the quality of life in our neighborhoods.



### THE PROSECUTOR

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Submissions for the next edition are due November 23rd.

### WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

THE PROSECUTOR is looking for story ideas. If you know of an event happening in your department, please email Nicole Manger. In addition, THE PROSECUTOR staff would like notice of awards, births and marriages.

Interested in writing a bi-monthly column? Please contact Nicole Manger.

events that took place leaving the room the way officers found it.

"This would definitely strengthen cases," Clayton said.

Hollenbeck said our society is becoming so visual, no one would have a difficult time getting use to computer automation in the courtrooms. He added that jurors almost expect to see the case on TV.

The courtrooms are not wired to support a computer system; that hinders the implementation of courtroom technology. Since lengthy trials often change courtrooms, due to scheduling conflicts, automating one courtroom without automating the others would be impossible.

There are 15 computer-integrated courtrooms in the U.S. The new federal court building is expected to house several similar courtrooms like the one used in the Symington trial.